

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 5-6 and 15-16 without prejudice to their reentry at a later date.

Please amend the claims as shown.

1. (Currently Amended) A DNA of the following (a), (b) or (c):

An isolated or purified DNA selected from the group consisting of the following

(a) and (b):

(a) a DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 1

(b) a DNA having a nucleotide sequence derived from the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 by the deletion, addition, insertion and/or substitution of one or a plurality of nucleotides

_____ and coding for a protein having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity

(c) (b) a DNA which hybridizes with the DNA having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 under a stringent condition

and codes for a protein having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity,

_____ wherein said stringent condition is such that the hybridization is carried

out at 42°C for 22 hours, and the resulting filter is washed with 0.5 x SSC

solution containing 6 M urea and 0.4% SDS at 42°C twice for 20 minutes each

and, then washed with 2 x SSC solution at room temperature twice for 5 minutes each.

2. (Currently Amended) A protein of the following (d) or (e):

An isolated or purified protein selected from the group consisting of the following

(a) and (b):

(d) (a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2

(e) (b) a protein having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 by the deletion, addition, insertion and/or substitution of one or a plurality of amino acids showing a homology of not less than 60% to the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2, and having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity.

3. (Currently Amended) A An isolated DNA coding for the protein according to claim 2.

4. (Currently Amended) An expression vector ~~constructed by cloning~~ comprising the DNA according to Claim 1 ~~in an expression vector~~.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (As previously Amended) A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism with the DNA according to Claim 1.

8. (As previously Amended) A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism using the expression vector according to Claim 4.

9. (As previously amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the host microorganism is *Escherichia coli*.

10. (As originally filed) The transformant according to Claim 9 wherein the *Escherichia coli* is *Escherichia coli* DH5 α .

11. (As originally filed) The transformant according to Claim 10 which is *E. coli* DH5 α (pNTS α 1) (FERM BP-6844).

12. (As previously Amended) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 7 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

13. (Currently amended) An expression vector ~~constructed by cloning~~ comprising the DNA according to Claim 3 ~~in an expression vector~~.

14. (Previously added) A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism with the DNA according to Claim 3.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously added) The transformant according to Claim 8 wherein the host microorganism is *Escherichia coli*.

18. (Previously added) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 8 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

CS 19. (Previously added) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 9 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

20. (Previously added) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 10 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.